

# With the Clergy and Laymen

## MISSIONARIES RECITE DIFFICULTY OF LEARNING DIALECT OF CHINESE

Another Interesting Letter Received By C. U. From Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Wickes

Difficulties attending the study of dialects of the Chinese language are explained in an interesting letter received by Central Union church from Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Wickes, its missionaries in North China.

In full, the letter is as follows: "The Chinese language is as you may know a most complex affair with many branches, dialects and varieties. Very rarely, moreover, does a foreigner so speak it as not to be known at once as a foreigner when heard but not seen. The imperfectness of this chief medium of communication, the spoken word, is a great barrier to effective service for Christ among the Chinese, and one that I determined from the start I would in my own case reduce to the smallest dimensions I could.

"For the first three years I studied almost exclusively the Mandarin dialect as spoken in Peking and its neighborhood. This meant pronunciation, understanding the spoken sounds, recognition of characters, reading and understanding the printed page, besides writing characters and sentences in Romanized, that is with English letters to represent the spoken sounds. The fact that so very many words have exactly the same sound makes this last of much less value for general use than one might think. "For example, Goodrich's little dictionary gives eight-four different words each pronounced like our long E with a low-pitched falling inflection. With a high-pitched falling inflection there are nineteen more, thirty-three with a high-pitched rising inflection and twenty-one with a low-pitched rising inflection. That is for Peking; in Shantung the inflections or tones are all shifted around. A few of these words are pronounced with different inflections for different meanings or in different combinations.

"This is a rather extreme case, but yet characteristic of all Chinese. While the connection usually gives a clue to which word is meant, you may well imagine that the possibilities of misunderstanding are large. Differing varieties of Mandarin are spoken through the greater part of China, and the recently revised New Testament aims to be understandable wherever Mandarin is spoken. I have of course made a study of this as well as of some of the Mandarin Old Testament. Some of its expressions are naturally in the idiom of other parts of the country. In my academy classes I meet a considerable variety of dialect though largely from this province of Chihli. The college class this year introduces me to more boys from Shantung, and to a number of the

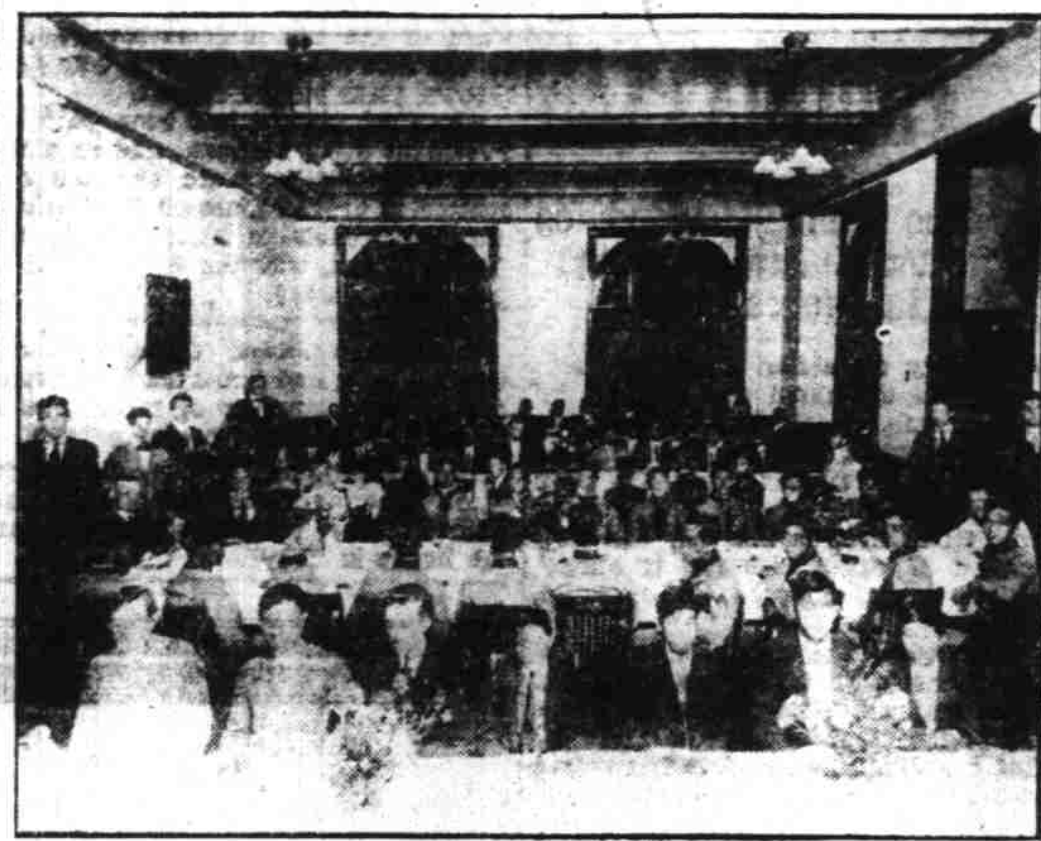
peculiar varieties of the Shansi talk besides the efforts at Mandarin of some from Fukhien. All this adds to ones acquaintance with Chinese in general, and to the interest as well as the difficulty of the work.

"This summer I first began regular study of the literary language or Wenli (pronounced 'one lee'), which also has many varieties or styles and which opens up endless stores of interest and information. I have begun with the 'newspaper style,' which is most generally used and useful and much easier than that of the classics. Though I have had comparatively little time for systematic study of it, I can now get the gist of most of the articles in the Chinese section of our morning paper or of other Chinese papers that I see occasionally, and can even make something out of many passages in the classics, some of which I am reading in the parallel English translation.

"While owing to the pressure of other work I have not had much time for study on the mission course since last spring, I hope to pass off the last of the third year requirements in April and some of the work for the fourth year. As to the power to think in Chinese and to have it come easily and naturally before my English thought that has been growing greatly in the last year or two, so that for some subjects I can use Chinese or English with somewhere near equal ease. But for fullness and accuracy of expression on many subjects the Chinese yet lags far behind. But the constant strain of the first years in trying to use any Chinese at all is largely gone, and it is a great joy to feel that I have a means of communication, even if by no means a perfect one, with the majority of the people of this great land to which you have sent me.

"The only work we have done on language this fall and winter has been the reviewing of the book that we used our first year at the Peking language school. But it is encouraging to find how much easier and more understandable it is now. I have also learned to write some 300 characters. I plan to read Pilgrim's Progress next as that is said to contain many good and useable Mandarin expressions. With this I should like to work up a vocabulary along the lines of social service, so that I can eventually teach classes in something of the kind if it is desired. I feel that the socialized point of view that leads to unselfish service for the common weal is much needed in China, and that it would be valuable if it could be given to our students, men and women, while they are with us. But whether I accomplish this or not my progress in language that makes me better able to understand and be understood by the Chinese can be put to good use."

## Kauai Boys In School Here Greet C. F. Loomis, New "Y. M." Secretary



The accompanying photograph was taken in Cooke hall, Y. M. C. A. building, during a dinner at which the Kauai boys in school here met Charles F. Loomis, who has left Honolulu to take charge of the Garden Island Y. M. C. A. at Lihue.

The first get together supper of all of the Kauai boys attending school in Honolulu, which was held at the Y. M. C. A. last week, was a great success. It was attended by 80 boys from almost every school in the city. Mills School had the largest number present, with Kamehameha second. Punahou and McKinley were both well represented. It was interesting to see all of the races of Hawaii mingling together in the social evening that followed the dinner.

This supper was arranged by Charles F. Loomis, who has just left for Kauai to take up his new work of organizing Y. M. C. A. work on the Garden Island. In an address to the students he urged the importance of their returning to their homes with a desire to help the other boys and men who have not had school advantages. Every one present, from the Filipino young men to the sons of

plantation managers, listened attentively and were inspired to do their part in helping to make their home island a more attractive and wholesome place for young men to live.

Mr. Loomis was greatly pleased with the success of the meeting as he feels that there will be 80 young men on Kauai this summer who will boost for the program of the association.

In addition to the address by Mr. Loomis, talks were given by A. E. Larimer of the central association and Lloyd R. Killam, who was instrumental in getting the work on Kauai started. Mr. Larimer spoke on "Opportunity Brings Obligation," and the subject of Mr. Killam's address was "A World-Wide Organization." Musical numbers were provided by V. D. Doty and W. H. Hutton entertained the boys with his inimitable baseball stories.

## Services in Honolulu's Churches

**CENTRAL UNION CHURCH.** Rev. Doremus Scudder, D. D., minister. Rev. Amos A. Ebersole, associate minister.

**The Bible School.** General exercises in church auditorium, 9:45 to 10:10 a. m.

**Kindergarten, "Sunbeam class,"** parish house, 10 a. m.

**Primer Department, Kiloana building, 10 a. m.**

**Junior Department, church, 9:45 a. m.**

**Intermediate Department, church, 9:45 a. m.**

**Senior Department, church, 9:45 a. m.**

**Student Group, Mr. Ebersole, Kiloana building, 10 a. m.**

**Dr. Williams' class, Kiloana building, 10 a. m.**

**Mrs. Black's class, church parlor, 10 a. m.**

**Sunday Services.** 11 a. m.—Morning worship. Sermon by Doctor Scudder: "Jesus' Father, XII, Source of Permanence."

6:30 p. m.—Christian Endeavor meeting, parish house. "Idioms of the Bible." Leader, Miss Ruth Benedict.

7:30 p. m.—Sixth of series on "Christ and Humanity's Problem." Topic: "Christ's Ideal for the State of the Christian in Politics." Rev. A. A. Ebersole.

A cordial invitation to these services is extended to all, especially to strangers and visitors in town.

**FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.** Victoria street and Beretania avenue; Leon L. Loofbourou, minister. Mothers' Day service at 11 o'clock. The pastor preaches on "The Cradle Song of God."

At 7:30 the first of a series of three lectures on "How We Got Our Bible." Topic for the evening, "The Old Testament and the Monuments," 65 stereopticon slides of the most noted archaeological discoveries connected with the Old Testament.

At the morning service the girls' vested choir will sing. In the evening the Kaulani quartet will sing and Mrs. C. L. Hall is the soloist.

Epworth Leagues at 6:30. Intermediates led by Miss Dorla Stevens. Subject, Mothers' Day. Senior leader, Charles M. L. Nelson. Topic, "Prayer as Communion With God."

Sunday school at 9:45.

**THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.** 1506 Kewalo St.

Take Punahou car, get off at Kewalo street and walk toward the sea about 400 feet.

David Cary Peters, minister. Real-estate: Sixth avenue, Kaimuki. Office at the church. Residence phone, 3797; office phone, 3790. Office hours, 9:11 a. m. and 1-2 p. m., except Saturday and Sunday; at the Y. M. C. A. 12:1 upon Fridays.

Preaching service: 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. each Sunday.

This pulpit makes an especial effort to deal not with theories, but with experiences.

The Bible school: Alice L. Hopper,

## 'BIBLE IDIOMS' WILL BE TOPIC AT C. E. SERVICE

Writings of Rev. Rihbany Give New Significance to Teachings of Bible

"Idioms of the Bible" is the title announced for the Christian Endeavor Service Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock in the parish house.

Much of the beauty of Bible imagery and the significance of Biblical expressions is lost upon the American because he is ignorant of the environment in which Jesus lived and taught.

Rev. Abraham Mitrie Rihbany, born in Syria, but now an American citizen, has given a new significance to much of the Bible in his writings thereon and this meeting will present a few of the most telling illustrations which he gives of the Oriental manner of speech. His own career, meteoric in brilliancy, will also be touched upon. Reproductions of some paintings illustrating Bible scenes, and executed after careful study of the life and customs of the Holy Land, will be displayed. All young people are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

## NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS GATHER NEXT THURSDAY

The Neighborhood Groups of the Women's Society of Central Union church will meet next Thursday afternoon, May 18, with the following ladies:

Mrs. R. D. Williams, 2421 Armstrong street; Mrs. Elizabeth Frazier, Mrs. C. R. Frazier, Manoa road; Mrs. William Stodart, Mrs. Maryly, Beckwith street; Mrs. A. J. Gignoux, Damon street; Mrs. R. S. Johnstone, 15th avenue and Waialae road; Mrs. W. D. Westervelt, Diamond Head road; Mrs. Mand Taylor, Miss Crumpton, Miss Downer, Castle Hall, Punahou; Mrs. W. J. MacNeil, 1831 Punahou street; Mrs. Doremus Scudder, 910 Prospect street; Mrs. C. B. Andrews, 743 Wyllie street; Mrs. R. E. Corcoran, Alewa Heights; Mrs. C. C. James, 2341 North King street.

The Nuuanu Circle will not meet this month.

## "HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE SUBJECT"

"How We Got Our Bible" is the general topic for three Sunday evening lectures announced at the First Methodist church. They have been planned by the pastor, Rev. L. L. Loofbourou, at this time as a part of the centennial anniversary of the American Bible Society. The lectures will be illustrated by stereopticon views.

For tomorrow evening the subject is "The Old Testament and the Monuments," and later Sunday evenings "The New Testament, How and Why Written," and "The Fascinating Story of Our English Bible" will be considered. The pictures for each of these topics are of more than usual interest.

They were gathered by Rev. A. J. Case, Ph. D., of California, with the assistance of Mr. Loofbourou, to show the wonderful results of recent research in Bible lands. For tomorrow evening the more important of the monuments and inscriptions found in Assyria, Babylonia, Egypt and Palestine will be shown and their bearing on the Bible pointed out. The Babylonian tablets of the creation and the flood will be in the list.

Law codes a thousand years older than that originated by Moses, spelling books used by the boys of Babylon, when Isaiah the Prophet lived in Jerusalem, are included. We have been familiar with what the Bible says about many of these facts in Israel's history, but here we can see the accounts written by Sargon, Nebuchadnezzar, Darius and Shalmaneser, the rulers who took Israel captive, of the same events told of in the Bible.

Modern scholarship has had few more wonderful chapters than this, in which the civilizations of forgotten empires have been rewritten.

The music for the evening will be by the Kaulani Quartet and Mrs. Charles L. Hall.

**TO OBSERVE MOTHERS' DAY WITH SERVICES AT METHODIST CHURCH**

Mothers' Day will be observed at the First Methodist church tomorrow morning. The typical white carnation, or some Hawaiian substitute, will be provided for members of the congregation.

## "MOTHERS' DAY" AND WHAT IT HAS COME TO MEAN ALL AROUND WORLD

Arthur E. Larimer Tells of Growth of Observance of Sweet Occasion

By ARTHUR E. LARIMER. Wear a White Flower Tomorrow in Honor of Your Mother.

Mothers' Day on the second Sunday in May is rapidly becoming an international day of recognition. People of all creeds and in all lands pause on this day to pay a just tribute to their mothers.

The idea originated with Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia about 10 years ago. She proposed that a white carnation be worn on this day in recognition of mother.

This simple tribute has gripped the hearts of the nation until Mothers' Day has been proclaimed by officials of the nation, the state and the church. It has spread to many lands and now there is a "Mother's Day International Committee."

The United States of America is the first nation in the world to give such a national, patriotic tribute to its homes. President Woodrow Wilson issued the first Mothers' Day proclamation on May 9, 1914.

During the past two years, governors of almost every state have issued annual proclamations in addition to those of the president. Governor Colquhoun of Texas made it a day for the pardoning of many state prisoners.

Mothers' Day is universally observed in churches everywhere on the second Sunday in May. It is observed in many schools on the Friday preceding and by many business organizations on the Saturday preceding the second Sunday.

The following poem will be on each place-card at the Y. M. C. A. Mothers' Day breakfast:

Honolulu will celebrate Mothers' Day in the churches tomorrow. The Young Men's Christian Association is giving a Mothers' Day breakfast to all the men living in the association dormitory. A large supply of white flowers will be on hand at the Y. M. C. A. office during the morning for all young men of the membership.

The following poem will be on each place-card at the Y. M. C. A. Mothers' Day breakfast:

The music by the girls' vested Honolulu are cordially invited to the choir will be appropriate to the day, service.

The pastor will preach on "The Cradle Song of God." All who are The Salvation Army has 9415 corps fortunate enough to have had mothers and outposts, and 15,988 officers and of their own and who are unfortunates, whilst connected with it are enough not to have a church home in 1142 social institutions.

A resolution passed by the United States senate and house of representatives on May 10, 1913 for the observance of the day by the president, his cabinet, and all federal departments. The Nebraska state legislature made Mothers' Day a state flag day in the same year.

Hon. J. Thos. Heflin introduced a joint resolution in the house in 1914 whereby the president should issue an annual proclamation designating the second Sunday in May for honoring the mothers of the land and "requesting display of flags on all government buildings, homes, schools and other suitable places."

The general and hearty observance of this day was followed in 1913 by the institution of "Fathers' Day," the first Sunday in June of each year. Fathers' Day was started in Delaware by two maiden ladies.

Billy Sunday used to say, "When the Lord wanted to make a good man, He gave him a good mother. Most any old stick would do for a father."

This sentiment has rapidly changed and the importance of the father in the training of the family is increasingly recognized. A red carnation is worn on Fathers' Day.

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